

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 575

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Rupelle Murphey Speight.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Rupelle Murphey Speight; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Speight was an exemplary citizen who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life of her friends and neighbors in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born September 24, 1909, she was one of five children of Milburn and Audie Murphey; and

WHEREAS, though born in Kentucky, she spent most of her childhood in College Grove and later in Sharon, where she graduated as valedictorian of her high school class; she always loved education and studying and attended the University of Tennessee Junior College in Martin; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Speight worked both professionally and as a homemaker; she served with acumen and alacrity as a substitute teacher and a librarian, in which position she drew great joy from being able to share with others her great love of reading; and

WHEREAS, in the home, she was wholly devoted to providing a loving and nurturing environment for her family, and her family's needs were always attended; she also made sure that visitors always felt welcome in the Speight home; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Speight was an active and devout Christian; having read the Bible through many times, she was known to be an excellent Biblical scholar and often shared her knowledge and insight as a Bible class teacher; and

WHEREAS, Rupelle Murphey Speight was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Speight enjoyed the loving companionship of Harry Speight, whom she joined in holy matrimony on August 1, 1937; she was the loving mother of Max Speight and Nancy Ann Speight and the proud grandmother of a grandson, Max Speight, Jr.; two step-grandsons, Brooks and Brandes Holcomb; two great-grandsons, Wyatt and Logan Speight; and two step great-grandsons, Tyler and Corey Holcomb; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Speight leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Rupelle Murphey Speight, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Speight.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

